

AGENDA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
February 22, 2022

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Joe Turman, Board Room, County Administration Building.
2. Opening Prayer – led by Supervisor Cox.
3. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Supervisor Bechtold
4. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Dr. Millsaps called the roll.

Supervisor Cox – present
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – present
Supervisor Bechtold – present
Supervisor Boothe – present
Supervisor Turman – present

It was determined that a quorum was present.

5. Approval of the Agenda

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Cox, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the agenda for February 22, 2022.

Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

6. Disbursements

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Cox and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

7. Minutes

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the minutes from January 11, 2022.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

8. Board Time

Supervisor Turman asked the Board if they would like to bring up anything.

Supervisor Boothe stated that he would like to thank the staff for all their hard work and wanted to share that it is appreciated and should be recognized.

Dr. Linda Millsaps, County Administrator interjected to explain moving the agenda item of Board Time up in the agenda to allow for updates and an opportunity to report on other boards and commissions' communication.

Supervisor Turman also thanked staff for their hard work and read the handicap statement.

9. Public Comment

Dan Vest Locust Grove district - I'll start this way, members of the Board of Supervisors, for clarification, I would like for each of you in the future, to publicly state, what you have accomplished? Or what would you like to accomplish as a sitting member, of the Floyd County Board? Do you or do you have goals, long and short term that you were or are planning to work on to better serve your constituents? Or were you just told to show up, vote, and sign off on what non-elected staff decided was important? Just so you know, many of us in the private sector have goals that we must achieve each year, or we will be judged accordingly. Judged by our compensation and even our continued employment. I have a few goals to suggest, and I brought these up many times before, but it gets worse every year. How about improving the roads in and out of Floyd County since 70% of the employed folks in the county commute. That would be a great goal. A safer route to our jobs is the most concerning improvement to route 57. I don't believe there's been major work to improve the commuting experience for the county commuter workforce since the mid-80s. Since we've worked on a route a firstly, drive three roads every day, on the way to work which do not drain, the ditches are full of dirt and are standing with full water cause the shoulders of the road and which causes the shoulders of the road to crumble. It is documented in history books that the Romans even knew how to maintain their roads and drain them properly. It also seems strange to me, that utility contractors for the past two years in this county, had been going through the same protected ditches and tearing everything to Dickens in the county without any

consideration to what the state thought people must abide by. I think that's a job. And that needs to be a concern. It needs to be fed back to the state. And the hypocrisy there is just unimaginable. And, where our safety, every day, we drive on these roads is in jeopardy because of these things. And it does. Our life is worth less than a turtle is basically what seems to be the issue here. It also seems you know; the solution is just to pave the roads over and over again. It doesn't work. And it's a waste of our tax money. Although it does, a lot of contractors bought new pickup trucks every year. But that's another thing. Also, when I was on the EDA, a fellow board member and I were told that we were not pursuing any effort of going to the district VDOT meetings and talking to the state planning folks, since county staff was going to take that action. Can you tell me the progress that has been made to date? Do any of you commute 40 Miles plus per day to go to work? If not, this may be the reason this hasn't been a priority. Another goal is to improve infrastructure to support businesses and help the industrial park. You get my drift there Right.

Supervisor Turman noted that the Public Comment allotted time was up, thanked Mr. Vest, and moved to the next agenda item of old business.

10. Old Business

a. Final Agreement on Phoenix Hardwoods Grant

Lydeana Martin, Community, and Economic Development Director reviewed the documentation that was in the Board of Supervisors packet regarding the Final Agreement on the Phoenix Hardwoods grant and inquired if any Board member had any questions.

Supervisor Boothe referenced page 2 of the grant and questioned the document which noted the average annual wage of \$35,888.000 and if that included management or if that was just hourly workers. Ms. Martin believed it to be an overall average. Supervisor Boothe also referenced page 7 and noted that for some reason they don't hit the minimum target, 50 and 90%, so the allowable, we would have to take them to court to recoup any money. Ms. Martin responded by stating that we would just hand the case over, and the Attorney General's office decides whether to pursue it further and the Board of Supervisors is not responsible for that money.

In a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and unanimously carried out, it was resolved to approve the grant funding agreement for the Economic Development Authority of Floyd County and Phoenix hardwoods and authorize all persons to sign the document as needed.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

11. New Business

a. ACCE

Dr. Millsaps shared, you will see in your packet an email that we received from several of you did as well, from Angie Covey, and of course, she is the person that is responsible for the ACCE program. Many of you know more about this program from your many years of commitment to it, but essentially, it is the program that allows some of our students to be able to attend the community college free of cost and it is something that several other counties such as Giles Montgomery, Pulaski and Radford can fund. These counties can fund their programs through the local government and private donations. We have been very fortunate the last several years to have our folks supported through a grant from the Virginia tobacco revitalization commission. Unfortunately, over time, the Tobacco Commission has fewer resources and therefore has been tightening its belt a little bit. People just don't smoke cigarettes like they used to. And so given that, they have decided that they will no longer fund any student who is enrolled in a general studies degree. And so right now, we have students who attend a college classified as general studies or health. So, they will continue to fund at this point, folks who are in health classes, but not general studies. And so, you will see the request for Ms. Covey, is because the total was not reimbursed by the Tobacco Commission for the fall, fall 2021 semester. They are short \$10,801.95. She does note that she has a donor who will assist with the current funding deficit. But they would like your assistance and advice as to how to proceed in the future. And I think they would appreciate some support now, but particularly in future budget years. And again, I know this is very important to many of you. So, we wanted, to bring it to your attention kind of outside of the normal budget cycle, because of the requests related to this year as well.

A conversation ensued with Supervisor Turman, Supervisor Boothe, and Supervisor Kuchenbuch who all reflected on their positive history with this program and how worthwhile this has always been for the students and the community.

Supervisor Bechtold shared her support and offered the idea of reaching out to the community who could assist with donating to the program as well. Supervisor Turman offered the idea of seeking assistance from businesses and new people that may not know about the program and might be willing to assist. Ms. Martin also provided information regarding Giles County and the creativity to raise money by doing a mud run.

Supervisor Cox noted his support for the program as well and questioned what the cost average cost would be moving forward. Ms. Martin replied that the approximate cost is \$1500.00 semester.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch added that this has been very good for the community, and our children, some have been first-time collegians in their families, and that says a lot. Mr. Vest, you talked about goals? Well, this was one of them, helping our youth to become more involved. I'm just speaking for the record. So, for me, this is a very

important program that I think the Tobacco Commission is being very short-sighted on. There is going to be a conference in March, where the tobacco Commission's education committee is meeting. This has landed on the desk of the governor well, so there is a move afoot to try and replace these dollars again. I think it's extremely important that we continue to fund it. And, you know, perhaps we can get creative and figure out a way to make an endowment, obviously, not within the county, but perhaps a private endowment that can be held at one of our local banks. That could be used for the ACCE program.

Supervisor Turman and Supervisor Kuchenbuch both discussed that two individuals went through the ACCE program working within the County at this time and how businesses may be more willing to participate with the possibility of a return on their investment.

On a motion by Supervisor Kuchenbuch, seconded by Supervisor Boothe and unanimously carried it was resolved to approve the funding to the ACCE program for \$5401.00.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes

b. Transportation and Growth Area Maps

Lydeana Martin, Community, and Economic Development Director Well, while you're passing that around, as I mentioned to you if you have heard we got the access road at the Commerce center, we're going up into phase two and the cost projections had come in. Last year, we applied for additional money to try to keep you all from having to put any money into it, we were awarded just over \$970,000 to help with that. So that puts us in about two and a half million total for the road and the utilities together. So, cross your fingers that will be enough to finally complete this, this year. Dr. Millsaps has been working with us to focus even more attention on potential transportation funding, we know that the needs are high, the dollars are few and going down. So, it's been a struggle, to meet, even to begin to meet the needs for maintenance, as well as for construction projects. And so, we've been looking at some transportation funding, again, from VDOT, and I put a little summary at the top, but around 2015, they moved some of the construction money out of coming directly to you all and put it in a competitive pool. And unfortunately, it's slanted in a lot of ways to work more for urban areas, because it's based on how much people travel the roads and how many accidents and it makes it harder for localities like us to compete for it. But I'll try to make this a long story short. There are four ways to potentially qualify for some of this money, which cannot be used for maintenance generally but can be used for construction projects. So, you know, intersection changes, road widening signal changes, bike paired, bike, pedestrian kind of things. So, these four things, any of them could help with eligibility, the bullet points you'll see on the front page. If the proposed project addresses a need of statewide

significance, and the statewide significance is based on a map, they have a road of statewide significance. And the only road that crosses Floyd County in that category is 58 out in Meadows of Dan. They did not classify either route 8 or 221 as roads of regional significance. And we've gone round and round on this for a few years trying to figure out if that was a federal thing, or if that's a state thing, but I've come to believe that the General Assembly could change this. And perhaps they could do something, you can request something like every county should have at least two roads of regional significance or something along those lines so that people like us aren't excluded. But that's just an idea. We could look at it further. The next bullet point is an improvement to support an area that they call urban development type area but it's more like towns or areas where there's public water and sewer that you expect, you know more development to happen. I think Dr. Millsaps shared that with you recently. So, this is something that is an option for you. And the comprehensive plan already has, recognizes growth areas, where we expect there to be more growth just based on the number of houses and the number of businesses and, the roads and that sort of thing. So, you could pass a resolution to designate that, as a growth area for the sake of this VDOT program. I've got more information in the packet; I won't go through all of it tonight. But I did want you to have it. But to be clear, what you would do if you did decide to designate that, is my understanding that only projects in the designated area would be eligible, it's still not to say that they would be competitive. It still takes, you know, planning dollars, having a good project having it compete. Well. But the good thing about that category is competition within the Salem district and not statewide competition. So at least it's, you know, we got a little better chance that way. So, I'll let you all look at that. If you did designate the growth area that's kind of in and around town right now, if you did designate something that was in town, the town council would need to concur with that. And that could be complicated in terms of their comp plan. I haven't looked at it to see what they say about that. But I just wanted to make you aware of that. And I put the state code section in there that you would have to cite, if you did a resolution, or if you updated the comp plan to reflect that. You must cite the code section, you don't have to commit to anything firmly, except the only things that I saw in it when I reviewed it that you must commit that you would review the growth areas every five years, just like you do the comprehensive plan. And, that the town would have to concur if there was an overlapping area. And it's important to know I highlighted it in the code sections, most everything says may be appropriate. The last couple of things is the map that shows all the expected growth areas in the county, but I put that in there, oh, you got a little bit different map, okay. This map is from the comprehensive plan and shows the kind of anticipated growth areas. So, you can see kind of where the biggest one is, around town and stretching route 8 North currently. Consider potential projects, like intersections, or, again, it must be construction-related projects, not maintenance, but this could be an opportunity. Dr. Millsaps thought it best that we shared a little bit of detail with you. Any questions or anything I can try to answer.

Supervisor Boothe added, to be cautious with the grant money so we don't end up being responsible for future maintenance or feedback or blogs. Supervisor Boothe encouraged the need to that in writing.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch questioned that there is no guarantee that the state is going to take it into their system. Ms. Martin responded that she feels good that they will at some point, but it will be after businesses are in place, but it will fall back on the owner until it's taken into the system. Ms. Martin referenced the Commerce center, and the drainage that is there needs to be done. With that, they are saying we are responsible for that drainage. So, unfortunately, there are pros and cons to this. This is one of the cons that temporarily you do have that responsibility.

12. County Administrators Report

a. Infectious Disease Plan

Dr. Millsaps updated the Board of Supervisors regarding the meeting of the regulatory board that met on February 16th, 2022, and rolled out some suggested policies for comment, and there will be a 30-day comment period from that. Once that occurs, we will then know what the new state rules are. At that time, you all will have to decide what you would like to do. I wanted to ensure I updated you to allow time for you to think of how to proceed down the road on the subject.

Dr. Millsaps transitioned to update the board regarding the new maintenance employee that will start on March 1, 2022. This position will be both maintenance and training to be a building inspector as well once the qualifications have been met. As well, we still have the permit technician/administrator assistance open and accepting applications for this position. Continued personnel updates ensued discussing the EMS department. The movement has been made with regards to a pay increase for all the full-time employees by \$1.00 per hour and happy to be able to utilize some of the ARPA funds to do that. In addition, we formally stated the bring a friend program which will be \$1500.00 once you get through the first training period. As well, the person who recruited that individual will also get \$1500.00. We have extended that idea to the Solid Waste department as well and have a couple of employees who are leaving us there. As related to EMS Kevin Sowers, Kim Chiddo, Phillip Belcher, and I met to discuss changes and keeping two trucks going at the same time. As this is becoming very challenging, especially with currently having 3-5 full-time positions open. I wanted to make sure you were all aware of the challenges regarding staffing and we have also reached out to Daniel on our volunteer side for support and assistance as well.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch stated that she would like to recognize the volunteer squad and is very pleased with how things are between our volunteers and our paid staff. There seems to be a renewed commitment to the health and welfare of our county citizens, and I have never doubted that was in existence. Supervisor Bechtold also thanked the departments and thanked staff for their efforts in trying to resolve the issues.

c. Tourism Summit

Dr. Millsaps updated the Board of Supervisors on the Tourism Summit scheduled for February 23, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – to 2:00 p.m. at the Floyd Events Center. At this

time there are 48 people signed up for the event, lunch will be served, and the Virginia Tourism folks will be facilitating. Dr. Millsaps shared that she will be bringing updates from this meeting to the Board of Supervisors.

d. Board of Supervisors/Management Retreat

Dr. Millsaps discussed the Board of Supervisors/Management Retreat scheduled for March 4th, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the Regional Commission office in Fairview. Some of the items at the Retreat that will occur will be, a get to know you time with each other, sharing of some information regarding the context for the budget process, and Kevin Byrd who runs the Regional Commission will be facilitating some of the prioritization conversations with you all to give staff some direction.

Dr. Millsaps transitioned as a need for a consensus on a small change regarding past approval of hazard pay at the last meeting. With regards to the library staff and learning after the meeting that there was more part-time library staff than first realized. So, we wanted to make sure before we corrected that we had your concurrence to make that move. Per discussion, the Board of Supervisors came to a consensus to move forward with the correction of entire part-time staff at the library and hazard pay.

Supervisor Boothe also asked if we spoke with Social Services regarding Hazard Pay. Ms. Chiddo responded and confirmed she spoke with the Director of Social Services who noted they did not receive hazard pay. Supervisor Turman also noted that they too were similar with having to work in the field as part of their responsibility and both Supervisor Boothe and Supervisor Turman requested further details regarding this department for future consideration.

Dr. Millsaps continued and noted a handout of a letter from Tuggle's Gap as it relates to the permit fee that they had to pay for their sign. It was asked if I could officially ask the Board to consider his request, from Tuggle's Gap, as stated in the handout, regarding the permit fee. The Board of Supervisors discussed the request for consideration and no change in the decision was made.

Dr. Millsaps asked the Board of Supervisors to consider the next set or two minutes to do a bit more summary or overview of the minutes. It was noted the increase in transparency through video and audio content available to the community. Dr. Millsaps suggested that if there is something particular the Board would like verbatim to state that in the meeting and we can ensure that is completed. As well as do the same for outside speakers. The Board of Supervisors all discussed and commented regarding the availability of video and audio and the importance of that for the community. They also agreed to allow the change in meeting minute structure and will comment in the future as needed if something would need to be adjusted.

e. IT update

Christopher McNabb, IT Manager provided the Board of Supervisors an update on IT matters. Mr. McNabb explained that we are in a transition period from an MSP to us, Mr. McNabb. Mr. McNabb referenced the list provided to the Board of the 10 things that we need to find replacements for and noted will do his due diligence on the best product and be a good steward of a future budget. Mr. McNabb discussed the two items that will be coming up that will need to be transferred which are the spam filtering and the office 365 backup. Mr. McNabb provided three quotes for the Board to refer to. Mr. McNabb also explained the items and responded to a better product as the consensus of staff's dissatisfaction with the present SOPHO program. Mr. McNabb explained the pricing options and term meanings to the Board of Supervisors and opened it up for further questions.

Supervisor Kuchenbuch asked if the safest pricing structure would be the 24-month term? Mr. McNabb answered by stating that doing things with a security posture, it's safe to leverage the highest amount of cost savings without committing yourself to the longevity of terms in the event the product or need changes.

Supervisor Boothe asked questions about the new product Barracuda and out clause with 100% refund if there is a contract, and we need to change course. Mr. McNabb explained that we have a 30-day back out which should be ample time to decide if this product works for us, which I am confident it will.

Dr. Millsaps ensued informing the Board of Supervisors that the purchase of the spam filtering will be under our emergency procurement provisions and explained therefore Mr. McNabb provided three quotes. Due to circumstances and timeliness, we do not have the luxury to go through a full procurement process on this.

On a motion of Supervisor Bechtold, seconded by Supervisor Boothe and unanimously carried, it was resolved to approve the 24-month contract for Barracuda ESI spam filtering software and authorized signatures as appropriate.

Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman – yes.

Dr. Millsaps added that the only thing left to mark your calendar if interested is that the Agency on Aging is having a grass and grill first annual event on May 26th, 2022, from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Nesselrod in Radford and tickets will be \$50.00. The agency is also hoping to restart the friendship café here in the next couple of weeks here in Floyd.

Supervisor Turman asked the Board if they had any other questions, comments, or issues at this time.

On a motion of Supervisor Boothe, Seconded by Supervisor Bechtold and unanimously carried it was resolved to adjourn the meeting until March 1st, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

Supervisor Boothe – yes
Supervisor Bechtold – yes
Supervisor Kuchenbuch – yes
Supervisor Cox – yes
Supervisor Turman - yes

14. Adjournment

By consensus, the Board adjourned the meeting to March 1, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.

Linda S. Millsaps, County Administrator

Joe D. Turman, Chairman, Board of Supervisors